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Sent: 2/10/2022 5:55:21 PM
Subject: DRAFT News Release - Message to Demonstrators

Inspector,

As requested this is simply a prepared statement if required for future use. It very much mirrors what Ottawa Police put out and I made very few changes to what they had. I'm not sure if we need the last line, I don't think we need to tell people what the consequences to a criminal record is, but it was included in the Ottawa release so I kept it in. Also, as discussed, once it is approved from our end we will work with OPP prior to any release going out. Also, if we find out from the upcoming meeting with the Crown of any specific charges related to the closing of the Ambassador Bridge, we could consider including that, however I don't know if that would be necessary as the point is basically we are telling people they CAN be arrested for this.

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Message to Demonstrators from Windsor Police Service

The Windsor Police Service wants to make demonstrators clearly aware that it is a criminal offence to obstruct, interrupt or interfere with the lawful use, enjoyment, or operation of property. The offence itself is known as mischief to property.

The unlawful act of blocking streets at and near the Ambassador Bridge is resulting in people being denied the lawful use, enjoyment and operation of their property and causing businesses to close down.

We are providing notice that anyone blocking streets or assisting others in the blocking of streets may be committing a criminal offence and must immediately cease further unlawful activity or you may face charges. You could be arrested without a warrant for this offence if you are a party to the offence or assisting others in the direct or indirect commission in this offence.

Vehicles or other property related to an offence may be seized. Once a vehicle is seized, it may be detained and, following a conviction, possibly forfeited.

Charges and/or convictions related to the unlawful activity associated with the demonstration may lead to denial in crossing the USA border.

For further information:

Contact the WPS Corporate Communication Unit's Public Information Officer at (519) 255-6700 ext. 4204.

Content posted by:

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Windsor Police Service - Headquarters
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